



Condensed News

Items of Interest From All Over the World

Tragedies and Comedies of Life Assembled for Busy Readers

MISCELLANEOUS.

Lenine, the Russian agitator and tyrant, has announced that he is pleased with allied treatment of Russia, and is almost ready to declare war.

Belgium needs more money and the United States has helped her out with \$1,680,000 more.

The battle at present being fought on the west front has been baptized "friedentum," or "storm of peace."

German concerns worth a quarter billion dollars will be sold at auction by Allen Property Custodian Palmer.

Porto Rican draft boards have received orders to send 15,000 additional men to the training camps at Las Cuscas.

Near starvation prevails in Austria and coffee is \$9 per pound. Only 7½ ounces of food are allowed per capita.

Arthur Guy Empey, author of "Over the Top," has been promoted to the rank of captain.

After August 1 all labor agencies in all cities and towns in the United States will be under federal control.

H. A. Evans, president of a Baltimore ship building concern, wagered his men \$2,000 to \$1,000 they would not complete a certain ship by July 15. The men won.

Mrs. P. Dupont, 38, of Montreal, insane, turned on the gas, set fire to her oil-soaked house and killed herself and four children.

The hull of the wrecked steamer Columbia was floated from its obstructions near Pekin, Ill., captured and two more bodies found.

ACCIDENTS.

A Frisco train of three coaches jumped the track and rolled into the river near Fickinger, Ark. Fireman and engineer are missing.

LABOR.

Employees of the General Electric Company at Lynn, Mass., went on a strike to secure more money and better working conditions.

More than 1,500 shoe cutters at the works in Brockton, Mass. are on strike for an increase from \$25 to \$27.50 per week.

CRIMINAL.

The federal investigators hold that the captain and pilot of the Columbia (recently sunk near Pekin, Ill., with 87 deaths) are responsible.

So many autos are being stolen in St. Louis that some of the police are likely to be fired.

It is now suspected that many of the mysterious deaths around New York and eastern cities have caused by scientific application of German poison.

Father Charles Eling, of Cape Girardeau, a Catholic priest, is out on a bond for \$2,000 to answer the charge of disloyalty.

M. Duval, editor of a French paper at Paris, was executed by a firing squad for treason.

August Kimmell, 39, fake sailor, was killed by a blow of the fist on the arm of a real sailor, Walter Hughes, 19, of New York.

A recent investigation in Chicago discovered 1,100 slackers in one vicinity. They are being sent to jail.

T. M. Lynch, lieutenant in the army, was fired from his job because he used marked cards in playing with brother officers.

DOMESTIC.

More than 225,000 acres of land in Nevada and Utah are to be opened up for homesteaders.

The United States has seized the big steel plant of Becker at Philadelphia, as its ownership is in doubt.

The new war taxes will force the war profiteers to disgorge enormous amounts of ill-gotten gains.

The United States has agreed to take over a number of Danish ships in return for needed supplies.

Thirteen members of the congressional naval committee are to visit Europe to see about our navy.

Students from the officers' reserve corps are to be put to work guarding the grain fields of South Dakota.

In spite of a shortage of 1,500 men at Hog Island, 35 ships are under construction at that place.

Food prices in general from April 15 to May 1 advanced 3 per cent and no reason has been assigned.

The railroad board has decided the public carries too many trucks and the number and weight are to be restricted.

Washington has asked for 3,000 woodworkers to get spruce out of the northwestern forests. Missouri's quota is 141 and Illinois' 114.

Over 1,000,000 women in various parts of the country have enlisted as saleswomen for the next bond sale.

The Bethany (Ill.) state bank was closed by J. W. McClellan, state bank examiner.

President Wilson has forbidden the censorship of news sent over wires under government control.

WAR BREVITIES.

American sharpshooters are using the rifle to such good advantage that the Germans find it impossible to advance in daylight.

Germany's latest pronouncement on the subject of Belgium is that she will keep that hapless country until her colonies are restored.

A call for 1,000 Illinois soldiers has been issued. They are to report at Jefferson Barracks on Aug. 5.

British casualties for the week totaled 14,874, as against 17,636 for the week previous.

It is admitted that six United States airplanes have been captured by the Germans, but our boys were too zealous and went so far inland their gas gave out.

FINANCIAL.

Missouri supreme court has awarded a commission of \$20,000 to Kelly & Kelly of Kansas City for the sale of state bonds.

PERSONAL.

A move is on foot in New York state to put T. Roosevelt up for governor.

Gaston B. Menza of Chicago admits that he acted as a secret agent for Germany before the United States entered the war.

Frank Machiel, former game warden of Illinois, killed himself at his home, near Kewanee, on the 15th inst.

Capt. Archie Roosevelt has been operated on to relieve him of a few pieces of shrapnel accumulated last March.

Carl Speckhart, 25, a soldier from Lewis county, Missouri, committed suicide at Camp Dodge, Ia. No details are being given out.

Wm. H. Taft has been invited to open the live stock show at Lewiston, Idaho, on the 8th of November.

Wm. C. D'Arcy, of St. Louis, was elected president of the Associated Advertising Clubs at their recent meet in San Francisco.

W. L. Edson, son of Thomas A., inventor, has enlisted for immediate service in the tank corps.

NECROLOGICAL.

Quentin Roosevelt, youngest son of the former president, was killed in an airplane crash on the west front in France. He died fighting two of the Huns.

John D. Orear, American minister to Bolivia, is dead. He was an attorney of Mexico, Mo., and a great friend of Champ Clark's.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

GENERAL.

An American flyer captured by a German was forced to take his captor on board, but soon lost him by looping the loop. Back to U. S. camp.

Twelve congressmen from various states are in France to report back to congress exactly the true condition of affairs.

England has built a steel ship without rivets, welding the plates together by electricity.

Insurance on all rail property was taken over by the federal government on July 16.

September 6 has been set aside as Lafayette Day, and also to celebrate the anniversary of the battle of the Marne.

The new star recently discovered by the naval observatory is fading away.

All Americans of draft age now residing in England have been called upon to register at once.

It is reported from Seattle that 1000 natives of Western Alaska have died of starvation during the summer.

Copper has become such a necessity in Germany that roofs are being stripped and gutters taken down.

FOREIGN.

It is said the Kaiser was a witness at the opening of the recent battle near Reims.

During the last three months more U-boats have been destroyed than during all the time before.

During the month of June the Allies made air raids on 33 interior German cities.

Aspirants are circulated at Washington that Von Hindenburg is dead of congestion of the brain.

Many of the councils of the interior towns in Germany are asking the Kaiser to forgo air raiding, as the reprisals are too sure.

Louison reports that sanitary conditions in Russia are terrible, and hundreds are dying of cholera daily in retrograds.

Hays has declared war on Germany, being the twenty-second nation so to do. Seven others have severed relations with the Kaiser's people.

A new plan for the purchase of estates from amoyal owners in Alsace-Lorraine has been proposed in the Reichstag.

German air raiders bombed an American hospital at Joz, killing two patients and injuring nine.

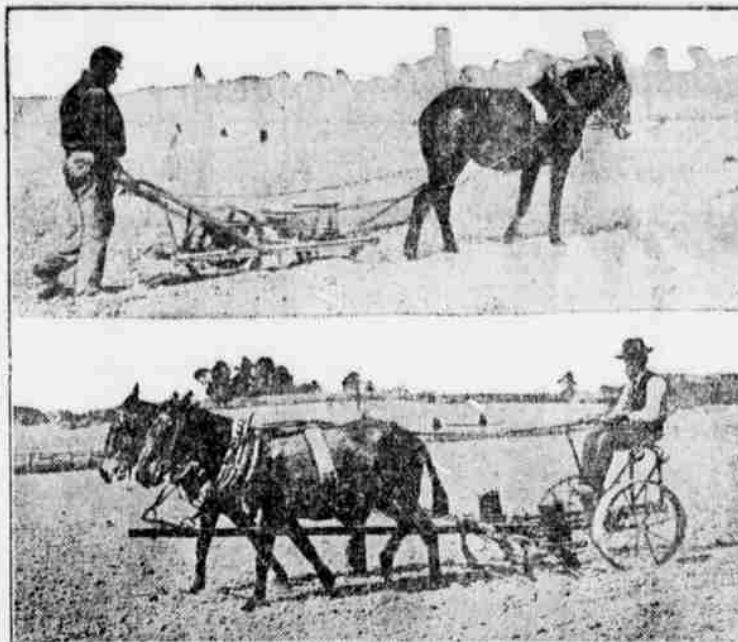
Gen. Horvath, was was worked himself into a commanding position in Austria, has agreed to renew treaties with the allies.

One of the funniest things in connection with the war are the pictures in German comic papers of air raids on New York.

Von Hertling now makes announcement that Germany has no idea of retaining Belgium.

Our Part in Feeding the Nation

(Special Information Service, United States Department of Agriculture.)
MAKING MAN LABOR COUNT FOR MORE



Larger Implement Increases Work One Man Can Do.

MACHINERY AIDS LABOR SHORTAGE

Use of Modern Implements Is One Way to Increase Crops in Time of Emergency.

AIDS EFFICIENCY OF WORKER

United States Department of Agriculture Recommends That Farmers Co-operate in Purchase of Various Farm Outfits.

Work which is generally done in some part of the country with the aid of machines that greatly increase the efficiency of the man employed is still largely done by hand in other parts. Machinery for the most of the work in connection with preparing and filling the soil is available in many places, and frequently two or more outfits, each requiring the time of one man, are seen working in the same field on operations for which implements of two or three times the size of those used could be employed with just as satisfactory results. There are few farm horses which a driver of ordinary intelligence cannot train to work in large teams in a few days' time, and most of the larger implements are little if any more complicated or difficult to handle than the small ones for the same work.

Machinery Profitable. Where the farm is large, and it is not possible to procure sufficient labor, specialists of the United States department of agriculture say it is more profitable, as well as patriotic, to install machinery which will enable the operator to plant, cultivate, and harvest a full acreage of the crops best suited to his land and the needs of his country, than to let some of the land lie idle, or, at best, have it prepared and worked poorly, and the crops out of season.

In Farmers' Bulletin 980, "Better Use of Man Labor on the Farm," just issued by the United States department of agriculture, photographs of actual farm scenes are printed to show that in many cases work can be doubled by the use of larger implements and greater motive power, and sometimes the gain is considerably more than that. If the nature of the work and the machinery for doing it are such that the best implements will increase the efficiency of the worker by only 50 or 75 per cent their use may make possible an increase in acreage by just that amount and at least will enable the farmer to do his work in less time and allow him to take better advantage of good weather or if the season is unfavorable.

Combining to Purchase Machinery. Can all farmers afford to buy extra horses and larger implements to save man labor? Of course those whose farms require but one or two horses to do the ordinary work seldom can afford to do so. But they can secure this additional help by combining to purchase larger machinery, and doubling up their teams to operate it; or one, usually more skilled in operating machinery, or better able to purchase it, may own the larger implements, and do the work for several neighbor farmers, besides his own, to the advantage of all concerned. Both these methods have been tried out in many localities with mowers, harvesters, tractors, thrashing machines, and other farm machinery.

How Rats Migrate. Migrations of rats from one locality to another probably are due chiefly to food conditions, say investigators of the United States department of agriculture. After years in which the pests are comparatively scarce in a rural neighborhood they suddenly be-

come exceedingly abundant and destructive. Rats migrate from places where food is scarce to places where it is plentiful. Abundant food in the new locality causes abnormal reproduction, the effect of which in a short time is that of a sudden invasion by a vast horde of rats.

Other movements of rats are local and seasonal in occurrence. An exodus takes place every spring from cities and villages to river banks and farmsteads in the surrounding country, and is followed by a return migration in the autumn. This phenomenon, which has been observed almost everywhere, explains why rats are more abundant in towns during the cold season and in larger numbers in the country during the summer.

That all rodent destruction is properly the business of the community, and that this must be recognized before substantial progress is made, is asserted by the department investigators.

INVESTING IN MACHINERY

If two men, driving one horse each, can combine the two horses into one team which one man can drive, and this team can do as much or more work than the two did singly, isn't it wise to combine them and save one man's time?

And if the farm is large and conditions warrant, isn't it wise to combine two of these two-horse teams into one, and save another man's time?

But before making these extra investments it is wise for the farmer to consider well the cost and the probable gain. If extra horses and implements cost more than they will produce, of course it would be unwise to make the investment.

Maple Sugar Value Grows.

The value of the national production of maple sugar and maple syrup has grown from \$2,600,000 in 1899, when the census first ascertained it, to \$12,000,000 for 1918, according to the bureau of crop estimates, United States department of agriculture. The maple sugar and syrup of 1918 were worth five times the cranberry crop of 1917, one and one-third times the hop crop, three-fifths of the sorghum crop, one-half of the buckwheat or flaxseed or onion crop, one-third of the oranges, and one-quarter of the sugar beets.

The principal region of production extends from northwestern Ohio through New York to Vermont and includes parts of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. Outside of this region there is production of importance in the mountain country beginning with the southern counties of Pennsylvania and extending through western Maryland into scattered localities in West Virginia, and also in parts of Michigan, Wisconsin and Indiana.

Weeds Never Rest.

The weed fight is one of the standard routine operations on the farm, and it represents a large proportion of the labor necessary to produce crops. No other single feature of farming requires such universal and unceasing attention as do the weeds.

Results From Thinning.

Do not let the vegetables remain too thick in the row. Too many beets to the foot in the row is just as bad as weeds. Get the maximum results from your ground by thinning and good care.

Plan for Storage House.

Early this season plans should be made and executed in the building of suitable farm storage houses or cellars. This usually can be done at relatively low cost if undertaken in time.

For honey comb and cellar wintering an eight-frame hive is commonly preferred.

NEW HONOR FOR AMERICAN HEROES

President's Orders Have Cut Away Much Red Tape in the Conferring of War-Time Rewards

AMERICAN soldiers in France who distinguish themselves by deeds are now honored by their own government in much the same fashion as are the heroes of other warring countries. From a nation which has never gone in very heavily for honors and decorations—and whose representatives are distinctly forbidden by the constitution to accept them from foreign governments—the United States has stepped into the larger circle of nations, among whom the bestowal of military honors of many kinds and degrees has long been an established custom, writes Foster Ware in the New York Evening Post.

Not that exceptional heroism in war time has hitherto gone unrecognized here. Since the days of the Civil War there has existed a congressional medal of honor, which, though little known, is regarded by many as one of the highest military or naval decorations to be won in any land. This medal always has been and always will be the most coveted honor in our army and navy. But it has remained for President Wilson, acting upon the recommendation of General Pershing, to institute not only several new honors, but new rules for their award, which in some respects will revolutionize American practice in such matters. In a word, the order establishing our new war decorations is expected to cut away much of the red tape which enveloped, unfortunately, more than one American hero of the past.

New Decorations.

Briefly, the new war decorations instituted by the president are these:

1. The distinguished service cross.
2. The distinguished service medal.
3. War service chevrons.
4. Wound chevrons.

Coupled with the congressional medal of honor, these new decorations give to the American soldier virtually the same rewards for special service that are offered in the French and British armies. The British have their Victoria Cross and the French their Medaille Militaire, and to these the American Congressional Medal of Honor—sometimes referred to as the "Valor Medal" or "American Star of Valor"—may be said to correspond.

The new American Distinguished Service Cross has no exact counterpart in the British army, inasmuch as the nearest thing to it, the D. S. O., is offered only to officers. The French Croix de Guerre (with palm) corresponds perhaps more closely. The American Distinguished Service Cross and the French Croix may be won by men or officers, regardless of rank. Perhaps, it was to meet this deficiency that the British in 1916 established a new military medal for plain soldiers and non-coms. "In recognition of bravery in the field." Within the two years 42,000 of these military medals have been given out.

For the new American Distinguished Service Medal there is the Distinguished Conduct Medal in the British army (limited to non-coms. and men), while in the French army its place is taken in part by the Croix de Guerre (with star) and the Legion of Honor. The tendency in the British army has been to distinguish between officers and men in recognizing services, whereas the French pursue a more democratic policy, and in general footing in bestowing honors. Indeed, such distinction as is drawn in France is in favor of the common soldier. The highest of all French military decorations—the Medaille Militaire—is given only to the plain soldier and non-commissioned officer, or to a commanding general, Joffre and one or two others are the only officers who have received it.

Follow French System.

It is the French system that is to be followed in respect to the awarding of American honors. Courage, heroism, bravery, or the signal performance of duty—at home as well as in France—are to be rewarded without regard to military rank. All our medals, new or old, are offered to officers and men alike. More than that, they



THE MEDAL OF HONOR



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

may be conferred upon women in the service of the army.

To date, no measures have been taken to make similar provision for the navy, but this will undoubtedly follow. As it is, the only war medal open to the American sailor or naval officer is the Congressional Medal of Honor. This places the marines in a strangely anomalous position with respect to honors. While at sea, the marines are under the navy and are subject to the rules regarding war medals obtaining in the navy. But the marines now in France are under the army and are technically entitled to receive any of the new army decorations.

There can be no doubt that the institution of new medals by President Wilson will have a beneficial effect upon the morale of the American troops in France. Acts of heroism—of which we have already had more than one instance—deserve recognition, and from the military standpoint such recognition serves better than anything else as a stimulus and incentive to all the troops. News of the president's action is said to have been received with the greatest enthusiasm by our men now serving in France.

For Extraordinary Heroism.

The Distinguished Service Cross is to be a bronze cross with ribbon. It will be awarded by the president, or by General Pershing, to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the army, shall hereafter distinguish himself or herself, or who, since April 6, 1917, has distinguished himself or herself, by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the United States or under circumstances which do not justify the award of the Congressional Medal of Honor. The Distinguished Service Medal will also be of bronze with a ribbon, and will be awarded by the president to any person who, while serving in any capacity in the army, shall hereafter distinguish himself or herself, or who, since April 6 last, has distinguished himself or herself, by exceptionally meritorious service to the government in a duty of great responsibility in time of war in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the United States. Thus it will be seen that to win the D. S. C. it will be almost necessary for a man to see service in France, while the Distinguished Service Medal may be won by a man whose duties in the army are confined to this side of the water.

The war service chevrons will be of gold, worn on the lower half of the left sleeve by each officer and enlisted man who has served six months in the zone of the advance in the war. There will be an additional chevron for each additional six months of such service. Officers and enlisted men of the aviation service on combat flying duty in Europe will be credited for the war service chevron with the time they may be on that duty.

The wound chevron will be identical in appearance with the war service chevron, but it will be worn on the right sleeve. It may be worn by officers and enlisted men who receive or have received a wound in action with the enemy necessitating treatment by a medical officer. An additional chevron will be given for each additional wound, but not more than one chevron will be worn for two or more wounds received at the same time. Disability by gas necessitating treatment by a medical officer will be considered as a wound.

Red Tape Is Cut.

In the rules governing the manner and method of awarding these medals, as well as the Medal of Honor, red tape is conspicuously absent. Time was when it was a matter of months, if not years, before a candidate for the highest military or naval honor within the power of the United States to bestow received his coveted prize. Not so under the generalship of Pershing. "In the present emergency," reads the general order, "whenever a recommendation for the award of the medal of honor reaches the commanding general of the American expeditionary forces in Europe, he is authorized to cable his recommendation for immediate action, and to hold the papers until a reply is received." Up to the approval by cable of his recommendation, General Pershing, or some officer whom he may designate, is authorized to go ahead and award the medal as the representative of the president.

It is even provided that in extreme cases, where the candidate for the honor is severely wounded and in danger of death, the commanding general may take matters into his own hands and confer the medal without waiting for the presidential O. K. The new system, in short, preserves the form of the old, while virtually leaving it to the judgment of the commanding general whether a man is entitled to the medal or not.

Spreading Japanese Language.

One of two universities or colleges in America have instituted a chair of Japanese, as has the University of London in the Netherlands. The Japanese language was tried in Oxford for three years; there is a professorship of Japanese in King's college, London, while Japanese is one of the subjects that receives special attention in the new British school of oriental languages lately established in London.

The teaching of Japanese abroad, so far, has been confined to special schools or seminars, but in New South Wales Japanese is now being established in the ordinary schools as an instrument of cultural discipline and instruction on precisely the same footing as what may be characterized as the great orthodox cultural languages—French and German.

This we consider to be one of the finest practical acknowledgments of the Japanese entry into the comity of modern culture that could possibly be given.—Exchange.

Knew Him.

Belle—Who is the box of candy from?

Beulah—I don't know. There is no card accompanying it.

"I'll bet it's from Freddie. He's so forgetful."

"Yes, but Freddie wouldn't only forget to send a card; he's the kind of a man who'd forget to send the candy."

Issue Newspaper Under Difficulties. The Union Republicaine de la Marine, in a recent issue, contained the following:

"To our readers: We have no need to make excuses to our readers for the issue which we are publishing. They know and they understand! Our object in publishing our paper, despite everything, is to furnish them with a newspaper, even incomplete, but to avoid interrupting relations between them and us, and, in so far as we are able, to maintain a little life

and activity in our premises. Our printers are working in a room which is covered with debris; we are writing on a corner of a table in a room which is open to the four winds, and as we pen these lines rapidly we are not yet able to set even one of our machines in movement! Will this number appear? We do not know. We hope, just the same, that it will reach our readers and carry to them, together with our affectionate greeting, the assurance that despite the increase

ing difficulties we shall continue publication.—E. L.—From the European Edition of the New York Herald.